



the gateway

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The University of Nebraska at Omaha's Student Newspaper

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- page 5
• Buca di Beppo review
- page 5
• Coffeehouse sessions to begin
- page 2

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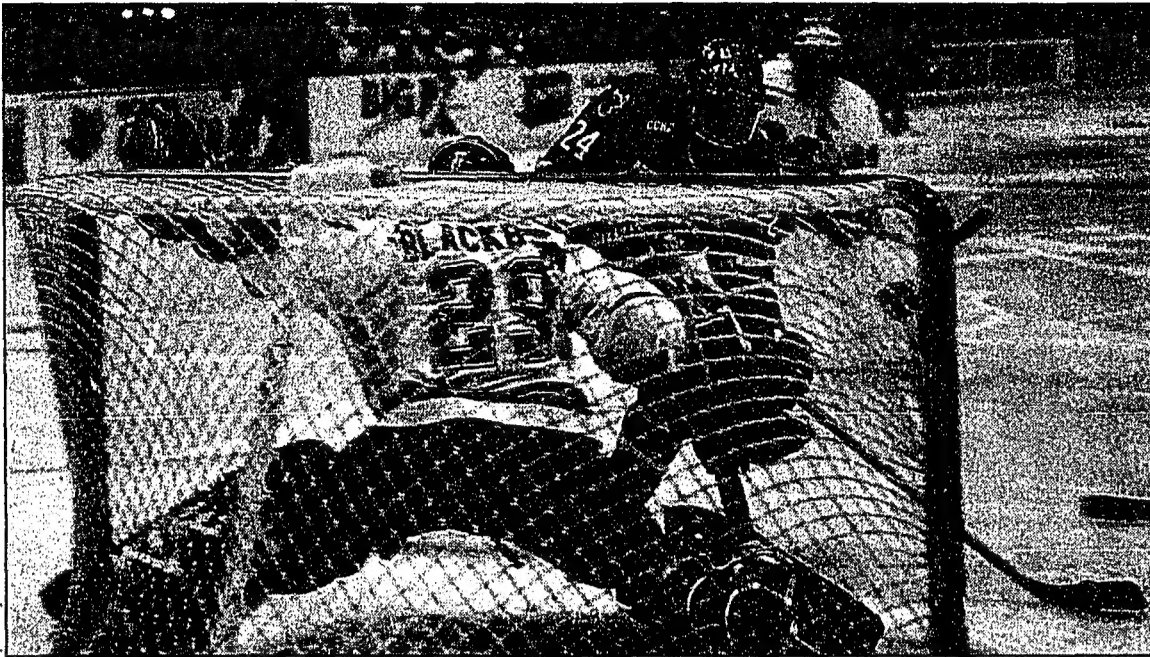


photo by Chris Machian

Maverick #24, forward James Chalmers, scores the 5th goal against Michigan's goalie Josh Blackburn during the CCHA playoffs last year in Detroit.

Candidates hold Council forum

Melissa Kucirek

Ten city council candidates met Jan. 30 at Abrahams Library to introduce themselves to the city.

Challengers from all seven districts, many with ties to UNO, spoke about community issues. No incumbent council members were present.

Discussion of police-community relations dominated the two-hour forum.

District 6 candidate Frank Thompson, a UNO education instructor, has four children and is a former teacher at Burke High School.

Thompson, who describes himself as a fiscal conservative, plans to use his background in human relations to better create "bridges for better police/community relations."

"This candidacy I'd like to take all that stuff and crush it," Thompson said. "The voters of Omaha want a reconciliation. It's a message our president gave in his inaugural address. He talked about working together across party lines. There are very few people in Omaha that can pull that off the way I can."

District 1 candidate Terry Coit, father of five and grandfather of four, urged the younger audience members to become more involved in volunteer efforts.

Coit's voice grew louder when discussing the current relations between the city council and the Omaha Police Department.

"When the city council disrespects our police department, they teach our citizens to disrespect our police department," Coit said. "I'm not saying every cop is good, what I am saying is we have a good police department."

Katherine Pillar, who will be officially announcing her candidacy for District 1 shortly, has two daughters attending UNO. Pillar received her master's degree in 1985 from the university.

"What we will continue to recommend is that there be more training on the side of prevention," Pillar said. "More professional attitudes and treatment of citizens."

Pillar is chairman of the citizen's review board and supports further studies of crime prevention.

"Our money should be spent on prevention of the problems," Pillar said.

Melvin Muhammad was on hand to represent District 2. He has noticed much violence occurring in his North Omaha community, which he believes is due to lack of employment.

"If you want to see crime prevented, you have to give the citizens something to do," Muhammad said. "It's a society issue."

After an audience member asked the panel of candidates how they would get along with one another, Muhammad responded much the same as the rest of the candidates.

"We want to be proud of our elected officials," Muhammad said.

District 3 candidate Mark Stoj is a 2000 recipient of Omaha Jaycees Ten Outstanding Omahan's Award. He is also president of the South Omaha Neighborhood Association.

Stoj addressed a question about how he would handle crime prevention. He said he favors showing more respect toward police officers.

Stoj said prostitution is prevalent among the Leavenworth Street area in his district, and he thinks people arrested for prostitution should receive HIV testing. If test results are positive, he says the prostitute should also be charged with assault.

"Once you make more serious penalties, you're going to see people run," Stoj said.

Stoj is willing to go door-to-door in his community to

Hockey to take on Wolverines

Brian Brashaw

Since the UNO hockey program was admitted to the Central Collegiate Hockey Association two years ago, many UNO hockey fans have been waiting for this weekend.

This weekend the University of Michigan Wolverines will skate on Omaha ice.

The Wolverines (19-6-4, 13-4-2 CCHA) are coming off of an overtime win and are only one of two teams to have defeated the Michigan State Spartans this season, the other being the Mavericks.

UNO, on the other hand, after winning a school-record six-straight

games, is coming home from a long road trip to Fairbanks, Alaska. The trip was made even longer due to the Mavericks earning just one out of a possible four points with a tie and a loss to the Nanooks.

The Mavs are in fourth place in the conference — six points behind the second-place Wolverines.

Michigan is led by Head Coach Red Berenson, who is the second winningest head coach in college hockey history. He is in his 17th season at the helm of the University of Michigan and has compiled an astounding 420-207-41 record.

Andy Hilbert leads the Wolverines in scoring — piling up 20 goals and 30

assists in just 26 games, making him the top scorer in the CCHA. Mike Cammalleri is second on the team with 44 points in 26 games.

Michigan goaltender Josh Blackburn is second in the conference with an 18-6-4 record and 2.28 goals against average. The Wolverines lead the CCHA in scoring with a 4.21 goals per game average.

Michigan is here looking for revenge. Last season at the Joe Louis Arena in the CCHA Championships, a pumped-up UNO squad embarrassed the Wolverines 7-4 in front of 10,000 people.

The two-game series kicks off Friday night at 7:05 p.m.

Library to undergo summer repairs

Matthew Falvey

University Library patrons with an eye for detail may have noticed in the past few years that certain parts of the building are getting a bit bent out of shape. As a result of long-term settling as well as soil damage caused by leaky heating vents, the basement floor has become warped — particularly in the microfilm and audio sections. The decorative wood paneling meant to run along the walls at carpet-level currently hangs an inch off the floor, while the once vertical basement shelves now lean like the Tower of Pisa — although strong braces ensure the safety of unsuspecting students.

In order to correct this problem, the library will be closing down its basement level for repairs during the first summer evening session. In a procedure known in the trade as "mud jacking," workers will drill holes in the floor into which concrete slurry will be pumped until the surface is once again level.

Facilities Management Planner Dennis Moore estimates the project will take two weeks to complete.

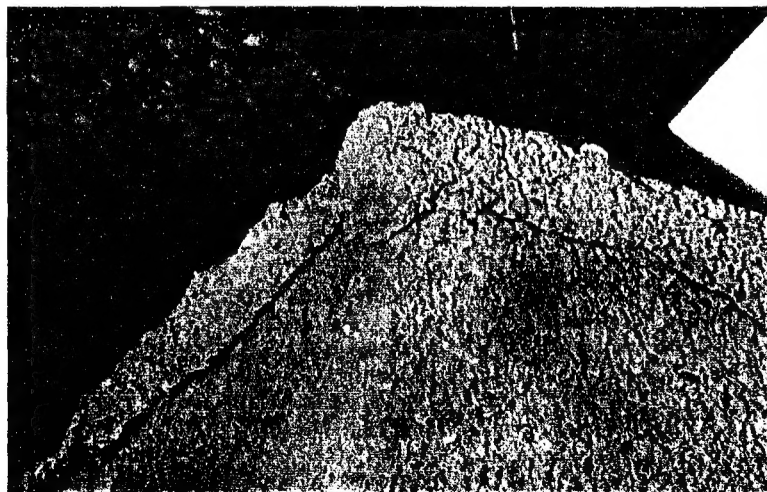


photo by Jon Helgeson

Cracks in the pillars on the south end of the university library are some of the visible signs that the library is sinking.

As the warping is fairly extensive, with the worst parts of the floor four inches lower than its intended height, special care must be taken to stabilize the bathroom pipes or they will certainly shatter — creating a plumber's worst nightmare. If funds permit, the university also hopes to use this time to replace the basement carpeting and rearrange some of the stacks.

Although UNO had planned to undertake the renovation during the winter, all of the construction firms that the university contacted would have charged rates much higher than UNO's hoped-for \$100,000 fee. It is expected, with construction rates dropping as the weather improves, the endeavor will cost somewhere near that projected range.

see Library, page 2

see Council, page 2

Coffeehouse series to begin Feb. 8

Melissa Kucirek

In an effort to "increase a sense of community on UNO's campus," particularly among its women, the Status of Women Committee will be sponsoring a series of coffeehouse sessions.

The first session will take place on Feb. 8 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the University Village Clubhouse.

The Status of Women Committee, which is part of the Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women, devised the plan to support its Report 2000 to achieve greater involvement with faculty, staff and students.

"There has been a lack of community on this campus — especially with women," Chairman of the Committee Cynthia Madden said. "The community is very fractured. This will be an interesting kick-off to the coffeehouse series."

Titled "Susan B's Coffeehouses," the series begins with a chance to discuss a variety of issues once facing UNO. Featured guests will be early groundbreaking women from the university including retired history instructors Jacqueline St. John and Jody Carrigan. Also scheduled to attend is Mary Williams, a representative from the Nebraska Business Development Center.

"All were at the university during the late '60s and early '70s," Madden said. "They fought for more equitable pay for women, and at the time some faculty women sued the university and brought about change."

Madden, who as a student at UNO was involved with the development of the Women's Resource Center, says she hopes having the meeting at University Village will bring a larger audience.

"We're hoping more students feel more comfortable by having it on campus," Madden said.

UNO graduate student Angela Eikenberry, a committee member who is pursuing a master's degree in public administration, agrees that the campus clubhouse will be more appealing.

"It should be more of a coffeehouse atmosphere," Eikenberry said. "It's more cozy and not a sterile classroom."

Susan Moore, director of University Village, offered the use of the clubhouse. Madden is uncertain if all proceeding meetings will be at the location. Crane Coffee has donated coffee, and other refreshments will be available.

"It's really open to all genders," Eikenberry said. "It will be fun and informal."

from Library, page 1

Interim Dean of University Library Janice Boyer assures the operation can be paid for with already existing funds and will not precipitate an increase in tuition.

For students taking summer classes, the basement floor of the library will be mostly, if not completely, closed off during the procedure as a safety measure. However, Boyer believes that the library will be able to accommodate those desperate for material by setting up a paging system whereby requested documents will be retrieved by a library worker who can handle his or her own

around mud jacks. During the renovation the main and upper floors will remain completely accessible.

Problems associated with long-term settling are quite common with large older structures such as University Library, and this will in fact be the third time the library has had to undergo such a procedure. City historians and centenarians may recall that the library's location was once a valley, which was filled with dirt prior to the construction. Geology Chair Harmon Maher notes such dirt fills and even loess, or the natural soil underneath, invariably settles under large

structures, and newer buildings compensate for this fact with foundational concrete slabs that jut deeper into the ground to hold everything in place.

As the builders of our aged but beloved library lacked such modern foresight, it is destined to sink, although this is hopefully the last time the basement will need concrete poured through its floor.

In the meantime, students need not avoid the library for fear of being buried under tons of debris. According to all sources, the building is as stable as ever and the settling problem, though vexing, is not urgent.

from Council, page 1

help set up neighborhood watches.

"You need money, there's lots of grants out there," Stoj said. "Let's set you up, let's get you going. And that's one of my big themes — pledge to get it done."

District 4 candidates Garry Gernandt and Joseph Velasquez were both present at the meeting.

Gernandt, a 1977 UNO criminal justice graduate, doesn't favor excessive studies and felt the police auditor position recently approved by the current city council "was pushed down people's throats."

"I believe in effective communication and effectively using time," Gernandt said.

Velasquez says the current prison system needs readjustment and crime studies won't solve problems.

"Prison is supposed to be a punishment," he said.

District 5 candidate Kathleen Swanson said she is against the police auditor position as well and thinks certain officers should review "personality training."

District 7 candidate and UNO alumnus

Tim Lonergan said he supports heavy community involvement with Omaha's youth.

Lonergan said that while walking door-to-door in his district, his community voiced its concerns about the relationship between the mayor and the current city council.

"They say 'we're sick and tired of people arguing with the mayor and acting like a bunch of little kids,'" Lonergan said. "They want somebody new — I'm that new face."

Gernandt was pleased with the questions presented to candidates and liked the energy level.

"The turnout was excellent; we have a good array of candidates," Gernandt said. "They all have legitimate potential that I felt here this evening that I could work with any one of them."

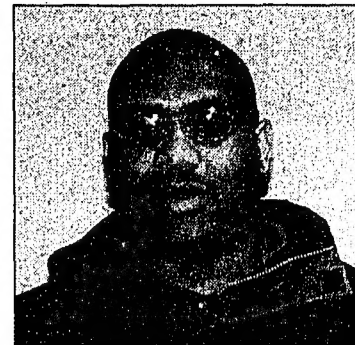
Thompson was discouraged the incumbent city council members weren't present.

"I believe the group you saw here tonight are very sincere and have good hearts to work with voters," Thompson said.

Do you think students had enough warning that classes were canceled on Monday?



Shella Stalert, Junior
"I think we had enough notice; I saw it on the news."



LaRon Rooks, senior
"No, I do not think they did. Basically I got up in the morning and I did not know if I had class or not."



Tyrone Brice, Junior
"No, because they did not inform anybody. They waited too late."



Amy Pettlinger, Junior
"No, I didn't even know that school was canceled till 6 p.m. that evening, and I wasn't going to go to class anyway."

mystery dates revealed mystery dates revealed mystery dates revealed



Student President /Regent
Will Marunda

see page 7
for details

Student Government
Chief Administrative Officer
Mallory Prucha



mystery dates revealed mystery dates revealed mystery dates revealed



the gateway

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Local bar showcases controlled fights

Samantha Harvey

As two men punch, kick and wrestle each other at a local bar, on-lookers cheer them on until the bell rings and round one is over.

The men, along with others, are part of a showcase put on by local promoter Chad Mason from the Gladiators gym on Tuesday nights at The Bourbon Street, located near 84th and Center Streets.

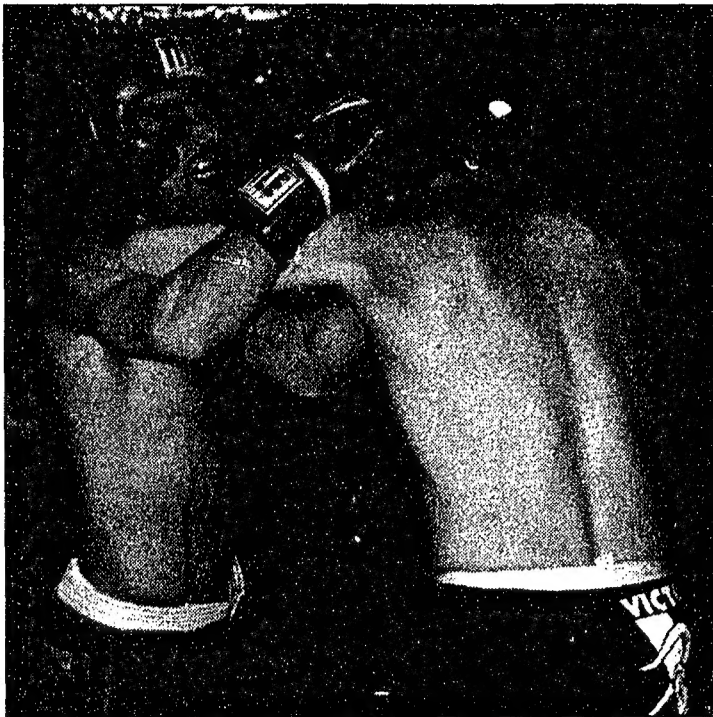
"One of our main concerns is we don't want to be associated with fights and we have worked really hard over the last year to try to get rid of that stigma that were known as that," Shawn Frederick, co-owner of the Bourbon Street said. "But the people that come out here understand that it is an organized event and they treat it as such."

The showcase is referred to as shoot fighting and involves different categories such as submission wrestling, no holds barred and pancrase fights, which is similar to NHB except participants can't not punch closed fist to the head.

"These are basically trials for the pro-shows," Mason said. "They just do these matches to keep in shape."

Mason is also a fighter that trains with team Jobeun.

"A lot of the guys either fight for me and my shows or I train them," Mason said.



Fighting exhibitions take place at Bourbon Street bar every Tuesday night.

A ring that 20 inches by 20 inches is brought in and set up by the Gladiators over the dance floor. The showcase has eight to 12 matches every Tuesday.

Each participant is put into a category based on weight: 155 pounds and below, 156 to 170 pounds, 171 to 185 pounds, 186 to 200 pounds and 201 pounds and over.

Included in the exhibition is a referee who makes sure the rules

are followed.

"Most of the time it is no biting, eye gouging, fish-hooking, pulling hair, hitting to the groin and can't bend fingers," Mason explained. "You can pretty much punch, kick, knee, elbow, throw, wrestle, do submission holds and choke. It's pretty liberal."

UNO senior and assistant wrestling coach Jason Brilz has participated in the showcases for almost a year and is undefeated.

"It is just another form of competition," Brilz said. "It is interesting to see how people react to controlled violence."

The matches can last anywhere from a few seconds to three rounds.

If one of the participants does not tap the ring floor, judges will pick the winner.

Occasionally a person will get hurt.

"You get some broken bones sometimes, mostly because the guy won't quit," Mason said.

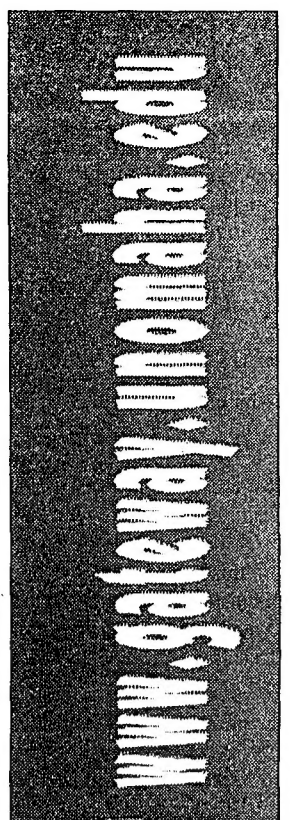
People from the audience can sign up to fight only if they have some experience and are not drinking. The audience member is matched by Mason with another audience member within the same weight class.

Many of the men have been involved in shoot fighting for several years.

"I've been training for seven years and this is the next level in training," said fighter Don Hamilton. "I'm just here to have fun and I'm just focusing on my life right now with this kind of being a side thing."

Interest in the event has grown over the past four weeks.

"As long as the crowd understands that we run security here and as long as the crowd remains in control we will be more than happy to keep it going," Frederick said.



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Services for Students with Disabilities reaches out to students

Laura Sanchez

Students needing help because of disabilities count on the assistance of the department of Services for Students with Disabilities.

The purpose of the department is "to provide individual assistance to every student with a documented disability," said special needs counselor Wendy Nilson.

The department assists students with campus accessibility and obtaining resources from the community. It also helps students achieve academic degrees and personal goals in life.

UNO currently has 152 students with documented disabilities — some of them live with mobility impediments, attention deficit disorders, hearing impediments and back pain.

Service for Students with Disabilities puts an emphasis on personal academic counseling for the students.

"We assist their transition from high

school to college — for them to become more independent," Nilson said.

The department has been growing with the help of other departments since it first started with one full-time employee in 1993.

"Specifically with the Learning Center and its study mentors who help students with disabilities to brainstorm their assignments and to organize their goals for the week," Nilson said.

Some of the SSD suggestions for students with disabilities are to contact their advisers early in the semester in order to register at the first possible date and to make contact with SSD before the first two weeks of each semester for academic adjustments.

All UNO students who have a disability and would like more information on what the SSD can offer them are urged to visit the department office located in Eppley Administration Building, Room 115.

SPO presents:

Comedian
Happy Cole



Fireplace lounge

February 7, 2001

Noon

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opinions&editorials

Classless Clintons

First of all, if all the Clinton supporters are asking if I'm going to attack the Clintons, yes I am!

The last days of the Clinton administration have been the most embarrassing and infuriating of the entire eight years of the administration. Everything ranging from executive orders, pardons and taking government property from Air Force One. Bill Clinton has been one of the most pathetic presidents in the history of our country. All Americans should be ashamed of the way Bill and Hillary Clinton have handled themselves.

In the last weeks of his presidency, Bill Clinton ordered that millions of acres of land in the western region of the country would be protected against development and exploration of any kind. The amount of land was too much and giving the order to protect these lands is a slap in the face of state governments in the western region. This was one of many abuses of power by Bill Clinton. And he made the wrong decision.

Another abuse of power of Mr. Clinton has been his pardons. Has it occurred to anyone that he pardoned his friends and contributors? Look at the case of Marc Rich. We should be livid over this pardon. First of all, he cheats the government out of millions in tax dollars and leaves the country to avoid prosecution. On top of that, he did business with the Ayatollah Khomeini when Iran was holding U.S. citizens as prisoners. His ex-wife has donated millions to the Democratic Party and his lawyer represented Bill Clinton before. Clinton said that when he looked at the case, he thought that Rich deserved a pardon. Oh come on, Clinton — you and I both know the real reason behind pardon; no one is fooled. Although the pardon can't be



The Right Way

column by
Aaron Winters

reversed, I believe that Congress should investigate the pardon and if there is evidence of bribery for the pardon, Clinton and Rich should both be indicted. This pardon was wrong and doesn't look clean.

Air Force officials are stating that many things were missing after the Clintons' last flight to New York. Everything from towels to the china was missing. First of all, he wasn't the president anymore; he shouldn't have been flying on President Bush's plane. We bought all the stolen property on the plane, and why should Bill Clinton be entitled to take our property?

Now Clinton is finally out of the presidency, he needs an office so he can do work as an ex-president. The cost of this office equals the cost of the offices of Ford, Carter, Reagan and Bush combined. That's ridiculous! Bill Clinton is just feeding an ego getting an office so expensive. Ronald Reagan was a much better president than Clinton, and his office costs a fourth of what Clinton's does. Bill's office comes courtesy of all taxpayers.

I'm sorry, but this man's getting way too greedy.

Look, I could go on forever about the Clintons and their total lack of class.

Bill Clinton was an embarrassment in office, so I guess it makes sense that he is an embarrassment out of office. There is only one solution to the problem. The citizens of this country need to speak out against the Clintons. Tell the General Services Administration that Bill Clinton doesn't need a big office. Let the Clintons know that they were and still are an embarrassment every chance you can. Thank goodness the sleazy and classless Clintons are out of the White House.

Bush-whacked

Congressional Democrats are taking a beating from President Bush, and they are taking it with little or no protest. After Nader's less than expected showing and Gore's erroneous loss, anyone on the left side of the political spectrum still had room for hope in the Congress — Democrats pulled even in the Senate and closer in the House.

With what seemed like an apparent coup by Sen. Daschle coming in the form of a power sharing agreement with Sen. Lott, things were looking promising.

Could it be the Democrats would actually take on the Bush administration and Congressional Republicans? No.

The Democrats have been thoroughly disappointing since the elections, save for a few bright spots.

Sen. Feingold is still vigorously pushing the Campaign Finance Reform Bill, which is good. But he failed to appropriately and pointedly question Sen. Ashcroft enough in confirmation hearings, which is bad.

Sen. Leahy from Vermont, as chair of the Judiciary Committee for a few days, was in a position to force Ashcroft to admit to his far right and far-fetched views but failed to do so. Even with his new pledge to vote against Ashcroft, it is too little too late.

Sen. Kennedy questioned Ashcroft forcefully and appropriately, but few feel he is dangerous enough anymore to turn a nomination around himself.

Rep. Gephardt has been conspicuously out of the limelight.

Jesse Jackson had his debacle limit his credibility and bite.

Sen. Wellstone, possibly the most liberal senator, announced his intention to run for a third term and break his self-imposed term limit pledge.

Every Democratic senator who questioned Gale Norton for Sec. of the Interior copped out.

President Clinton showed again that although he is the most gifted politician in the country, sometimes he doesn't think by taking almost \$200,000 worth of gifts from the White House.

The list could go on.

It is not entirely fair to blame the current situation only on lack of Democratic leadership and zeal. The "Bush Charm Offensive" also needs to be given credit. This blinding attack has the Democrats running scared and the rest of the nation fooled.

Just because the president goes to a predominantly black church and visits schoolchildren does not give him a free pass to extend his honeymoon time in the White



Left Field

column by
Ryan McGrane

House. Since running as a "uniter, not a divider," Bush has done nothing but be divisive and disingenuous.

First it was his cabinet picks — most were extreme and reactionary. The fact that only Linda Chavez was defeated shows the skill of the Charm Offensive, the apathy of most Americans and Democratic hesitancy. Now his first actions as president are unbelievably polarized to the right. He eliminated federal funding for overseas pregnancy counseling centers. These are not only places that provide abortions, as they were portrayed by the administration, but they are also places that advise women about contraceptive methods.

After that the administration incorrectly portrayed Alan Greenspan's assertion that a tax cut was needed as a wholehearted endorsement of its \$1.6 trillion overkill plan.

Next Bush called for the impenetrable wall between the government and religion to be penetrated. By ripping down that wall and giving federal funding to organizations that are not held to federal anti-discriminatory laws, the president sets calamitous precedence. Of even greater importance is the principle that government should never, ever fund religion. Some religions are going to be favored over others and religious dogma will be federally subsidized, both of which create disastrous opportunities.

The California power crisis has also played into the administration's hands and allowed Bush to call for increased oil exploration. If one looks behind the facade, that is just an excuse to drill, pollute, disrupt and ruin much of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Funny how that benefits large oil companies more than anyone else.

The most unfortunate part of this litany of complaints against Bush is that there is little protest about them. It seems as though the Democrats in Congress are shaking in their boots and doing little to debate the merits of the president's proposals. The American people seem to be looking the other way, as we usually are.

Bold and audacious leadership needs to be established in Congress to thwart this onslaught. Opposition parties are supposed to oppose what they do not believe is right for the country. There is nothing wrong or disgraceful about raising strong objections to the president's proposals. Acting on your beliefs as an opposition party is the right thing to do. Shirking from them in the name of bipartisanship is cowardly and politically expedient.

New anthem for a new millennium



Graveyard Shift

column by
Janet Harriet

"Oh say can you see by the dawn's early light what so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming? Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight o'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming? And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air gave proof through the night that our flag was still there. Oh, say does that star spangled banner yet wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

Have you ever stopped before a sporting event and, instead of wondering at the choice of the Backstreet Boys for the national anthem, contemplated what message "The Star-Spangled Banner" sends to the world? The first, most commonly used, stanza of the national anthem contains four sentences.

Three of them are questions. America is the last superpower, the self-appointed guardian of democracy and affectionately refers to its president as "leader of the free world." Yet the song that exemplifies our country to the rest of the world can be summarized in the sentence, "So, did we make it through the night?"

Fortunately, there are still parts of the world which do not speak English so do not understand the uncertainty contained in the

lyrics. To them, the American national anthem is a laughably unsingable tune originally composed under the title "Anacreon in Heaven" by British composer John Stafford Smith.

Not to mention that, 37 states later, the banner is hardly star-spangled. It's become star-infested. In short, our national anthem is a set of uncertainties set to music composed by the enemy. Still, we persist in using it.

In a new millennium, in the third century of the nation's existence, a new national anthem is in order. Something declarative which reflects the strength of the world's oldest surviving attempt at democracy. And maybe something composed by an American.

Unfortunately, that rules out one of the best expressions of American spirit, "America," also known as "My Country 'Tis of Thee." The Rev. Samuel Francis Smith set his words to a song out of a German song book. Unfortunately, the song shared its melody with "God Save the Queen." Somehow sharing an anthem melody with our former colonial mother country seems less than ideal, not to mention it might cause some confusion at the Olympic games about who won the gold medal.

I would like to throw my vote toward replacing "The Star-Spangled Banner" with "America, the Beautiful." In addition to expressing the majesty of America as seen through the eyes of Americans, it expresses a new ideal for the next millennium: proud beauty, not proud war.



the gateway

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Letters must be signed using the writer's first and last names. Letters must include the writers address and phone number for verification purposes only. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.



arts&leisure

Restaurant review

review by Katie Mullin

If you're looking for an authentic Italian dining experience like no other in Omaha, Buca di Beppo is the place for you. And I don't just mean the food.

Equally important as the wonderfully delectable menu based on the history of Italy, this quaint, family restaurant

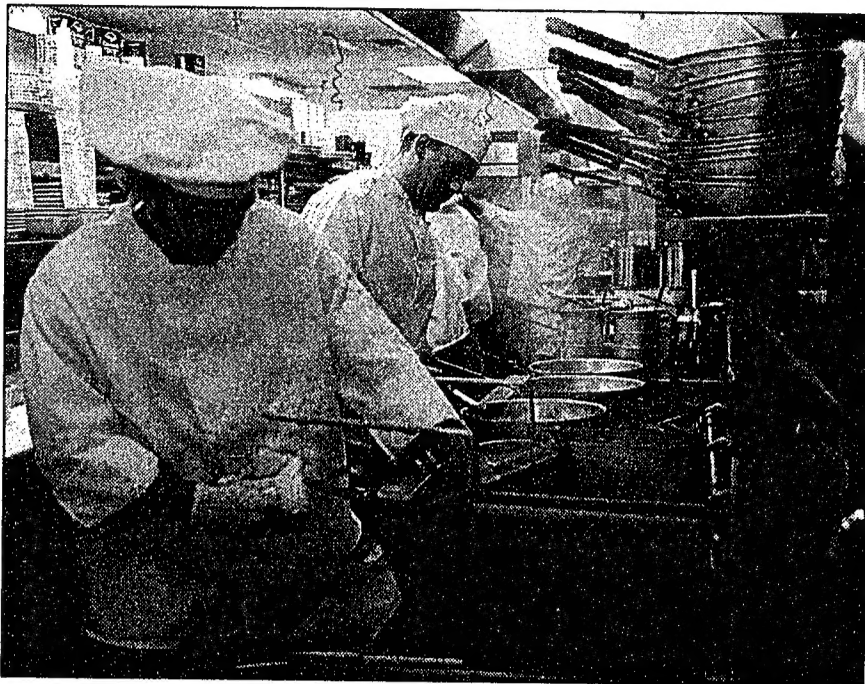


photo by Josh Williamson

Cooks at Buca di Beppo prepare tasty dinners. Patrons can view the kitchen before their meal or eat at the table in the middle of the kitchen.

boasts a warm and inviting atmosphere that will make you feel like you're indulging in a huge family feast at Grandma's house.

Located at 3309 Oak View Drive, Buca di Beppo translated from Italian means "Joe's Basement." And rightfully so — the absence of windows in the dining areas and the soft, dim lighting make for a very cozy and intimate atmosphere. Walls strung with Christmas house lights and decked with early 20th-century photography further authenticate the delightfully unique atmosphere.

And what traditional Italian dining room would be complete without good conversation? Buca di Beppo boasts a very knowledgeable and energetic team of hosts, servers, chefs, bussers and managers who will eagerly answer any questions or just stand around and chat with the guests.

Another delightful little quirk was the on-display kitchen that we walked through on the way to our table. Not only can guests mosey on back to have a look-see, they can also request to be seated at the lone table in the midst of all this cuisine-creating excitement.

Continuing on our way to our culinary adventure, we could almost taste the aroma of baking bread and simmering marinara wafting from the kitchen. We passed under a ceiling covered with old movie posters and wine advertisements and walked by a rather large menu on the wall. Yes — on the wall.

While this was a rather inventive tactic, I found it a bit annoying, and I'm sure so did the party I had to hover over in order to see it.

We decided to begin our feast with the mixed green salad. I'm sure it sounds boring, but let me assure you, it's anything but. The heaping mound of shiny iceberg and romaine lettuce moderately dressed with onions, olives and an Italian vinaigrette flowed off the plate, literally.

For the main course I thought I would be adventurous and order something I'd never tried before, so I went for the Baked Ravioli and Chicken Parmigiana. Loaded with ricotta cheese and topped with marinara and feta cheese, the ravioli made my taste buds dance with flavor. The chicken parmigiana, blanketed with prosciutto and marinara, nearly melted in my mouth. I've never tasted a more tender piece of meat.

Then, as a side dish, being the Irish girl that I am, I just had to try the Garlic Mashed Potatoes. The creamy sensation and the tantalizing flavor left my taste buds craving more, so I had seconds. Of course, when I eat out I'm about as finicky as the average 10-year-old, so I had to eat around the potato peels, which did add color and texture to the dish. The Irish would be proud.

If you can save room for dessert, and I suggest you do, I would recommend the Spumoni. This colorful ice cream dish smothered in luscious chocolate sauce is sure to satisfy the most decadent sweet-tooth cravings.

With their gigantic portions, these dishes are meant to be shared. Most feed two to three people, and because Buca di Beppo serves dinner only, the chefs spend the entire day preparing this real immigrant southern Italian food.

I recommend that you also spend the entire day preparing for this real immigrant southern Italian food by not eating anything all day. Believe me, you will need and want to save room for this monumental feast.

Appetizers: \$5.95-\$13.95
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Side Dishes: \$7.45-\$9.95
Pasta: \$9.95-\$19.95
Entrees: \$16.45-\$19.95
Dessert: \$5.95-\$11.95
Wine by the bottle: \$21.95-\$75.95
Some wines also come by the glass

Buca di Beppo

Diffuser makes ninth Omaha appearance



courtesy photo

Diffuser will play at the Ranch Bowl Feb. 4 with Tantric and Dust for Life.

Rebecca Manczuk

The New York-based rock band Diffuser will take over the Ranch Bowl Sunday night with the help of Tantric and Dust for Life. It should be a show that Omaha fans go away talking about.

In 1994, four guys who lived on the same block in their native Massapequa, N. Y., met by sheer luck and started a band. Six years, numerous tours and one name change later, Tomas Costanza (vocals), Anthony Cangelosi (guitar), Lawrence Sullivan (bass) and Billy Alemaghides (drums) are showing no signs of quitting or even slowing down.

Always knowing that they wanted to be involved in music in some way, shape or form, they started out six years ago touring the country as Flu 13. They released one album under the name, entitled "Foul Key of V." About a year and a half ago, in the midst of all the name/number bands, the members decided to change their name to the present Diffuser. With the name change came time for a sound overhaul as well. Diffuser's sound can be classified as a Stone Temple Pilots meets Cheap Trick infusion.

It seems that the guys have been and will be touring almost nonstop in support of their new album "Injury Loves Melody." They have been on the road with the likes of SR-71 and Days of the New. The show this Sunday will be the group's first one with Tantric and their tenth in Omaha.

"We love touring," Sullivan said. "We do it to get our name out there and expose us to different people."

Because the band has no intention of slowing the pace, Diffuser will have more and more opportunities to get their sound out to a broad audience and to get the name recognized.

Diffuser will be at the Ranch Bowl on Feb. 4 with Tantric and Dust for Life. Tickets are \$6 in advance, \$7 day of show.

Dust For Life steps into Omaha limelight

Christine Hollister

Between releasing their self-titled debut, touring with 3 Doors Down, Creed and Nickelback, being featured in several music magazines and even reacting to a bomb scare at one of the shows — it's been an exciting year for Memphis-based rockers Dust For Life.

In the middle of the third song in a show in Indianapolis, the stage manager got on stage and stopped the band from playing. He announced there had been a bomb threat and everyone was forced to evacuate the building. The band never got to finish its set.

"That was the weirdest thing that's ever happened to me," said lead singer Chris Gavin. "It was just bizarre to have a bomb threat while you're playing."

Aside from that incident, driving through blizzards and a guitar that broke in half during a show last week, Gavin said it's been a fairly

smooth journey since the band's beginning in 1998.

Dust For Life was founded by Memphis guitar player Jason Huges, who met Gavin through a mutual friend. The pair added Madison, Wis., drummer Rick Shelton and Orlando, Fla., bassist Dave Shea to the group and formed Dust For Life as it is today.

"A lot of times in a band you'll have one guy who doesn't really work as hard and doesn't really care as much. In this case we didn't have that," Gavin said. "We have the right sort of mix where everything just sort of comes together. As with everything, it's just chemistry."

Dust For Life got a big break when the band was asked to tour with Creed last year.

"We got to be on the Creed tour before our record came out," Gavin said. "It was just great for us and a good way to start the band out."

see Dust, page 7

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Men's basketball team continues to win

Cory Carlson

Head Coach Kevin Lehman's troops return to Sapp Fieldhouse this weekend having won two of the last three games. UNO faces North Central Conference front-runner South Dakota Friday and fourth-place Morningside on Saturday. Both games tip off at 8 p.m.

UNO continues to be led by sophomore guard Seth Nelson, who is fourth in the NCC in scoring with 16.2 points a game. Nelson is also eighth in free-throw percentage, hitting 84.3 percent from the charity stripe.

Junior forward Eddie King has also stepped up his game. King is averaging 14 points and eight rebounds over the last three games.

UNO is last in the conference in scoring with just 74.3 points a game, and assist/turnover ratio at just .93. But the Mavs are improving in many areas and will be concerned with the improvement of just one stat this weekend: the win column.

South Dakota is tops in the NCC in scoring defense, field goal percentage and scoring margin. UNO's perimeter defense will have to be on its toes because USD is second in the conference in three-pointers made per game with 9.68.

The Coyotes' leading scorer is forward Jimmie Foster who averages 15.6 points a game. Guard Nate Tibbetts leads the conference in assists per game with 7.95.

Morningside comes calling on Saturday boasting the league's best free-throw shooting team and the most three-point shots made (187).

The Mustang's floor leader is forward Andrew Drevo. Drevo is 10th in the conference in scoring (14.5 points a game) and pulls down 6.9 boards — good enough for sixth-best in the NCC. He is also Morningside's long-range sharp-shooter — hitting over 51 percent from behind the arc.

Taming the Mustangs will clearly entail slowing down Drevo.

UNO has lost to both teams once this year already, but a win on Friday or Saturday could do wonders for this team in a late-season push for a seed in the NCC Tournament.



photo by Josh Williamson

Aimee LaFave came in first in the 100-meter butterfly and second in the 200-meter butterfly events.

Swimmers victorious over Washington University

Melissa Kucirek

UNO's swimming and diving team continued to dunk its opponents over the weekend. After first-day events at the Washington Invitational, UNO led by 136 points against Washington University. On Jan. 27, UNO continued its domination and glided to a 1,032 points victory, 350 points more than WU.

In Friday's results, junior Aja Wurth won the 1-meter diving event. Freshman Kylie Behnke finished fourth in the 11-meter competition.

Swimmers Jamie Haferbier and Kristy Malone took first and second-place honors. Haferbier finished with a time of 5:20.37 in the 500 freestyle to Malone's 5:21.82.

In the 100 breaststroke, senior Kim Ferris finished second at 1:11.65. UNO freshman Amanda Mahan came in third at 1:11.82.

Sophomore Danielle Thornton, former South Sioux City Cardinal, finished at the 1:12.54 mark (fifth place).

In the 200 backstroke junior Jodie Haferbier took third-place hardware, with a time of 2:21.12.

The Mavericks cleaned up in the 100 freestyle. Sophomore Trina Larson raced to third place with a mark of 55.92. Senior Malia Bruening placed sixth at 56.86, while sophomore Katrina Clemens came in at seventh.

Junior Aimee LaFave, a Bellevue West graduate, came in second in the 200 butterfly event.

In Saturday's action, Wurth championed the 3-meter diving event, scoring 346.8 points.

Malone was victorious in the 200 freestyle, with a time of 1:59.03. Freshman Stacy Crook followed soon after with a mark of 2:03.39.

LaFave finished first in the 100 butterfly, in the time of 1:01.77. Freshman Michael Bengtson wound up third with a 1:02.81 mark.

Freshman Shannon Meyer completed a second-place pace in the 400 individual medley.

Women's hoopsters return looking for strong finish

Cory Carlson

The women's basketball team will look to halt a three-game losing skid when South Dakota and Morningside visit Sapp Fieldhouse this weekend.

The Mavericks take on a team from Vermillion, S.D., with a losing skid of its own. USD has lost seven of its last nine games and is in eighth place in the North Central Conference.

Although the Coyotes appear timid at first glance, they do bite back in a few phases of the game.

USD is second in the NCC in free throw percentage. As a team, the Coyotes take care of the ball on offense with a 1.12 assist-turnover ratio — good enough for second-best in the conference.

Individually, USD is led by forward Julie Frie, who is shooting 47 percent from the floor and averages 12.7 points a contest. Frie, along with forward Kelly Kroep (11.2 pts., 4.5 reb.)

and guard Kelly Gese (10.7 pts., 3.1 reb.), make a dangerous trio.

The Mavs lead the all-time series 28-20, and have already beaten USD 81-76 on Jan. 6 at Vermillion.

The cellar-dweller Morningside Mustangs bring a 1-10 conference record to Sapp Fieldhouse for a 6 p.m. tip-off Saturday.

MC ranks last in the NCC in scoring defense, scoring margin, field goal percentage defense and turnover margin.

However, the Mustangs are solid on the boards — something that has plagued the Mavs from time to time this season.

MC pulls down 44 rebounds a game — second in the conference. The Mustangs have out-rebounded their opponents an average of four boards a game, whereas UNO has been out-rebounded by at least two boards a game. If this game is close enough for five rebounds to make a difference, the Mavs could be in trouble.

Forward Trish Martin is averaging a double-double in every game, scoring 12.5 points and grabbing 12.6 boards a game to lead the conference.

In the backcourt, Erica Thein holds it together, leading the Mustangs in scoring with 12.7 points a game. Thein is also 10th in the NCC with 6.9 rebounds a game.

UNO dominates the all-time series 21-5, and defeated the Mustangs 81-65 on Jan. 5.

On Wednesday, Athletic Director Bob Danenhauer announced that Lisa Carlsen will now be officially appointed as head women's basketball coach.

"Lisa has demonstrated outstanding leadership and deserves the opportunity to continue as our head coach," Danenhauer said in a press release.

Tanya Hammes blocks a shot at a recent game.

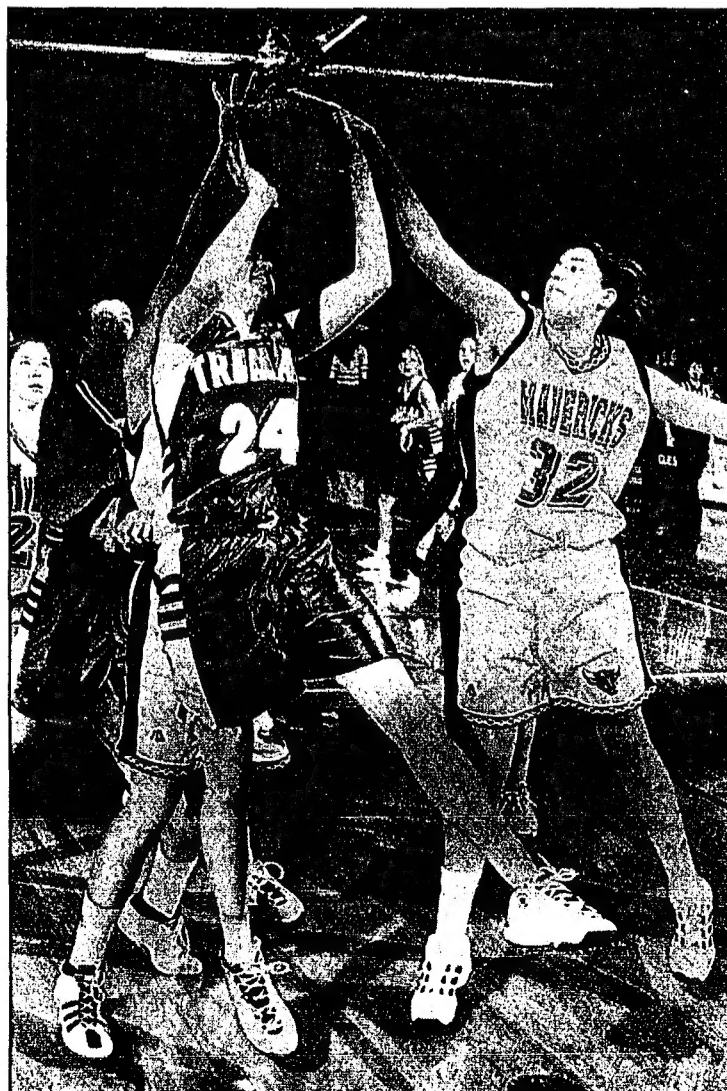


photo by Chris Machan

Grapplers in Greeley this weekend

Melissa Kucirek

Head Coach Mike Denney's Division II No. 1-ranked wrestling squad will be taking extra notice of the mat, the lights and the sound system this weekend. They'll want to come back March 9-10.

Denney's wrestlers take on Northern Colorado Feb. 3 at 4 p.m. in Greeley, Colo. — the same arena scheduled to host the NCAA Division II National Championships.

Jack Maughan, the Bears' coach, says his team is "young and inconsistent." Maughan's hopes for an upset rest on senior Marshall Hahn, a 149-pounder who qualified for the 2000 NCAA Championships.

Hahn lost 3-2 to top-seeded Boyce Voorhees (now a UNO assistant coach) in the third-place match at the 1999-2000 North Central Conference Championships.

He was idle last weekend to prepare for the UNO dual.

"Hahn's a little hurt, and his losses have been injury-related," Maughan said. "Marshall has been a great leader with a tremendous work ethic."

UNC's goal this weekend is to stay even with the Mavs and utilize its young talent.

"We've got to be perfect," Maughan said. "Our team has a lot of potential with great high school credentials. Sometimes that means they get beat up by the college wrestlers."

UNC is No. 16 in Division II. UNO leads the all-time series 22-3-0. In last season's confrontation, UNO baited the Bears 27-11.

"UNO doesn't have a weak spot," Maughan said. "They are really well coached."

Peanut Gallery

• Props to the following UNO athletes who received Special Recognition Awards at the 36th Omaha Sportscasters Association awards banquet Jan. 25: volleyball players Tracy Ankeny and Nikki Mastny, football players Chris Cooper, Chad Geiger and Adam Wright and women's basketball player Darcy Stracke.

• Props to UNO wrestler John Mitchell who was named NCC Co-Wrestler of the Week. Mitchell defeated UNK's Riley Ross 3-2, then upset No. 5 NDSU's Grady Wolf 7-6 to raise his season mark to 15-11.

• UNO Head Coach Pat Behrns announced four high school standouts and two Omaha prep stars will sign letters of intent next month to play for the Mavs next season. Ben Foutch (6-5, 295) played both offensive and defensive line for Council Bluffs Abraham Lincoln. Foutch's teammate, Ronnie Alexander (6-1, 210)

was a starter at fullback and middle linebacker. Ankeny, Iowa's Shawn Ostlund was an All-Central Iowa defensive end. Brian Kline of West Des Moines Dowling holds career rushing marks for the Class 4-A state champs. Taiwo Onatolu (6-2, 185) recorded 133 tackles for Papillion-LaVista from the outside linebacker spot. Creighton Prep's Tom Cramer, All-Nebraska lineman (6-3, 255), played both offensive and defensive line.

• Lost in all the news: ABC Sports has decided to bring back Dennis Miller, Dan Fouts, Al Michaels, Melissa Stark and Eric Dickerson for another season of Monday Night Football. The crew was brought back based upon the fact the show saw ONLY an average drop of seven percent in viewing.

• Romania is asking the European Rugby Union to send it a new Nations Cup trophy they won in 2000 ... because they lost the original one. "The cup disappeared in unknown circumstances," Romanian Rugby Union President Dumitru Mihalache said. Smacks a bit of the Stanley Cup, doesn't it?

• Former Omaha Royal fan favorite Joe Vitello has been sold by San Diego to the Orix Blue Waves of Japan's Pacific League.



Sports Coming Attractions

Friday, Feb. 2, 2001

UNO Women's basketball (6-13) hosts South Dakota (8-10) 6 p.m. at Sapp Fieldhouse.
UNO Men's basketball (8-11) hosts South Dakota (16-3) 8 p.m. at Sapp Fieldhouse.
UNO hockey (15-11-2) hosts Michigan (19-6-4) 7:05 p.m. at Civic Auditorium.

Saturday, Feb. 3, 2001

UNO track at South Dakota Invitational 9 a.m.
UNO tennis (1-0) at South Dakota State 6:30 p.m.
Division II No. 1 UNO wrestling (6-2) at No. 16 Northern Colorado (2-4-1) 4 p.m.
UNO swimming and diving hosts Northern Colorado 8 a.m. at HPER.
UNO Women's basketball hosts Morningside (4-15) 6 p.m. at Sapp Fieldhouse.
UNO Men's basketball hosts Morningside (13-6) 8 p.m. at Sapp Fieldhouse.
UNO hockey hosts Michigan 7:05 p.m. at Civic Auditorium

Be my Valentine



Win a date with Will Marunda or Mallory Prucha. The date is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 11th at 5p.m. Fill out entry forms in the Gateway office, MBSC 115. Entry deadline is Thursday, Feb. 8th, at 2 p.m.



Winners must agree to be featured in a Gateway article about the date.

Dinner will be provided courtesy of the participating restaurant and will be chaperoned.

from Dust, page 5

Gavin describes Dust For Life's music as "dark and melodic" and said the group's first radio single, "Step Into the Light," is about "seeing the truth and having the ability to accept it and grow from it."

Gavin said many of his and Huges' lyrics on the album came from difficult relationships they were working through at the time.

"The album is mostly about just feeling the emotions that we went through during and after those break-ups," Gavin said. "Emotions that were swiveling and lingering around after the dust sort of settled, so to speak."

Gavin and Dust For Life look forward to

playing with Tantric at the Ranch Bowl Sunday.

"We want to play places we haven't played to reach new fans," Gavin said. "It's always fun to break new ground."

After touring with Tantric through March, Dust For Life hopes to reunite with Fuel for a spring tour. In the meantime, you can check out Dust For Life on the band's Web site at www.dustforlife.com.

"The songs are good and we're a fun band," Gavin said. "We try to give the crowd a show — we're not the kind of band who stands up there in jeans and t-shirts and look at the stage the whole time."

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SPRING FIRST SESSION INTRAMURAL SPORTS

B LEAGUE TOP TEN

For 5x5 Basketball

(After Week 1)

As determined by The Max-Rec Crew!

rank	team	
1.	X-Men	1-0
2.	Raptors	1-0
3.	Sugar Ray's Fun Police	1-0
4.	Mo's Free Agents	1-0
5.	Sig Ep B	1-0
6.	Lords of The Underworld	1-0
7.	Bedu Crew	1-0
8.	Smoke II	0-1
9.	Pike B	1-0
10.	Mats	0-1

Comments: So much for Smoke II. Like I said last week, no idea who anyone is yet. Mo's Free Agents probably had the most impressive victory, but lets just say that the competition was a little suspect. X-Men did show up and play and win, so THEY are the new #1 team... for now. Who knows what might change between now and the tournament? Bedu Crew only needed four players to post their victory against the Tritons, keep it up, fellas; you might get that t-shirt someday. (Not in our lifetime, though) Look for the big showdown between Raptors and Sugar Ray's Fun Police Sunday that might actually be a decent B League game.

A LEAGUE TOP TEN

For 7x7 Flag Football

(After Week 1)

As determined by The Max-Rec Crew!

rank	team	
1.	Diversity III	1-0
2.	In It 4 The Shirt	1-0
3.	Sig Ep A	1-0
4.	The Commission	1-0

5.	Old School	0-1
6.	Run & Gun	0-1
7.	Team Dirt	1-0
8.	The Intramural Champions	0-1
9.	Pike A	1-0
10.	The Nets	1-0

Comments: A good first week of action, with the top four teams all having impressive wins. Pike A did have a forfeit victory, but they play Sig Ep A this week, so we'll see if they're for real or just beating up on some second tier team. Team Dirt defeats the Free Agents, but just barely, and with some questionable roster movement, so they don't go anywhere for now. The Intramural Champions put up a fight against The Commission, but they just didn't mach up well. Look for The Big East to be the showcase league... bad news for The Nets, who don't look to have too many weapons right now. Diversity III and In it 4 The Shirt both had impressive wins, so they hold on to the top two spots. THE ROCK says to still look for those two teams in the finals, with The Commission looking like the third choice and Sig Ep A the dark horse.

GAMES OF THE WEEK

Mo's Free Agents vs. Sig Ep B - Wed., 7 pm
Pike A vs. Sig Ep A - Wed., 8 pm
Lords of the Underworld vs. X-Men - Sun., 5 pm
Team Dirt vs. Young Guns - Sun., 5 pm
Raptors vs. Sugar Ray's Fun Police - Sun., 7 pm
Bedu Crew vs. Smoke II - Sun., 9 pm
and the game of the week...
Old School vs. In It 4 The Shirt - Sun., 7 pm

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IMMIGRATION. Asylum/ Labor Certification, H-1B Visas/Work Permits. Please call Argyrakos Law at 346-8408 Convenient Omaha/Council Bluffs Metro Location.

FOR SALE

1991 Ford Tempo good condition, AC, tape player, automatic, power locks and windows, \$2200/offer Call 334-8710

ROOMMATE WANTED

Roommate wanted to share a large house. Own bathroom & garage. Needs to be non-smoker, clean, and reliable. \$400 + 1/2 utils. Call 593-2094 with references.

HOUSING

APTS., HOUSES and sleeping rms. for rent, roommate lists - call UNO off-campus Housing Referral Service at 554-2383 or stop in the Admin. Office, Milo Bail Student Center.

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE 9 Month Lease Available 417, 421-423 North 40th Street (Between Cathedral and Joslyn Castle) Large 1 and 2 Bedroom Apartments Carpet, Central Air, All appliances Off Street Parking, Security. Lease from \$375-\$495 per month Heat and Water Paid Belgrade Company Phone 393-6306 or Fax 393-4208

TRAVEL

Spring Break with Mazatlan Express. Air/7nights hotel/ free nightly beer parties/ party package/discounts. (800)366-4786. www.mazexp.com

ATTENTION: Clubs & Organizations Place Classified Ads Announcing Your Meetings & Events for ONLY 25¢ a Line!!! Call or Stop by the Gateway 554-2470 MBSC 115.